

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A method of treating a prokaryotic pathogen infection in a subject, said method comprising:
inhibiting the proteolytic ~~proteasomal~~ activity of a proteasomal core protease in a prokaryotic pathogen by administration of an inhibitor of a prokaryotic proteasomal core protease to make the prokaryotic pathogen susceptible to antibacterial host defenses, thereby treating a prokaryotic pathogen infection in the subject.
- 2-3. (canceled).
4. (currently amended) The method according to claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein the proteasomal core protease is a product of either the *prcA* gene or *prcB* gene ~~*prcBA* genes~~.
5. (original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the protease is PrcA.
6. (original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the protease is PrcB.
- 7-11. (canceled).
12. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the host defense is oxidative/nitrosative stress.
13. (original) The method according to claim 12, wherein the oxidative/nitrosative stress is reactive nitrogen intermediate-induced stress.
14. (original) The method according to claim 12, wherein the oxidative/nitrosative stress is reactive oxygen intermediate-induced stress.
15. (canceled).

16. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~45~~, wherein the administering is oral, intradermal, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, intravenous, subcutaneous, or intranasal.

17. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~45~~, wherein the inhibitor of proteasomal core protease activity is selected from the group consisting of epoxomicin and N-[4-morpholine]carbonyl- β -[1-naphthyl]-L-alanine-L-leucine boronic acid.

18. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the pathogen is ~~selected from the group consisting of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, *Mycobacterium leprae*, and another~~ a disease-causing *Mycobacterium*.

19. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the subject is a mammal.

20. (original) The method according to claim 19, wherein the mammal is human.

21-102. (canceled)

103. (new) The method according to claim 18, wherein the disease-causing *Mycobacterium* is selected from the group consisting of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* and *Mycobacterium leprae*.